

CJI Planning Survey

1999

Highlights And Findings





I N D I A N A
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
I N S T I T U T E

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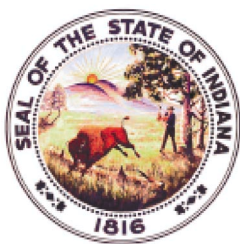
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CJI Planning Survey 1999 Highlights and Findings



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About the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

Guided by a Board of Trustees representing all components of Indiana's criminal and juvenile justice systems, the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute serves as the state's public safety planning agency. The Institute develops long-range strategies for the effective administration of Indiana's criminal and juvenile justice systems and administers federal and state funds to carry out these strategies.

The Institute oversees a variety of justice programs including the Governor's Criminal Law Study Commission, Governor's Commission for a Drug-Free Indiana, Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving, Victim Services, Juvenile Justice Program, Safe Haven, Drug and Crime Control Program, Criminal History Records Improvement, Law Enforcement Assistance Fund, and Police Corp.

To carry out the Institute's planning and administration mandates, the Institute's Board of Trustees identifies statewide needs and resources for fighting crime and delinquency and helping victims of crime. Information gathered from various sources is used to develop statewide criminal and juvenile justice policies and strategic plans. Sources of planning information include the following:

- Evaluations of program effectiveness;
- Research data;
- Needs assessments;
- Local units of government;
- Other state government agencies;
- Professionals involved in justice-related efforts; and
- Concerned citizens.

Indiana's 1999 Strategic Planning Survey (the Survey) serves as an important source of information for criminal and juvenile justice planning in the early years of the new millennium. The Survey captures and quantifies the experience and knowledge of more than 1,500 professionals working in criminal and juvenile justice across the state. This publication presents Survey findings and describes what we learned from this research initiative conducted in the summer of 1999.

Table of Contents

i-vi

Survey Purpose, Methods, Highlights

Survey Findings

1	Age Group that Commits the Most Offenses, Commits the Most Serious Offenses, and Represents the Largest Drain on Community Resources
2	Juvenile Offenses Creating the Largest Drain on Community Resources
3	Juvenile Offenses Involving an Illegally Obtained Firearm
4	Factors Contributing to Juvenile Delinquency
5	Minority Representation at Various Stages of the Juvenile Justice System
6	Adult Offenses Creating the Largest Drain on Community Resources
7	Adult Offenses Involving an Illegally Obtained Firearm
8	Availability of Programs for Dealing with Drug Problems
9	Controlled Substances Most Abused in Communities
10	Presence of Organized Gangs in Communities
11	Crimes Committed by Organized Gangs
12	Changes in the Illegal Activity of Organized Gangs in the Last Three Years
13	Presence of Non-Organized Gangs in Communities
14	Crimes Committed by Non-Organized Gangs
15	Changes in the Illegal Activity of Non-Organized Gangs in the Last Three Years
16	Value of Various Approaches for Fighting Delinquency and Crime
17	Availability, Effectiveness, and Sufficiency of Resources for Justice Programs – Chart 1
18	Availability, Effectiveness, and Sufficiency of Resources for Justice Programs – Chart 2
19	Availability, Effectiveness, and Sufficiency of Resources for Justice Programs – Chart 3
20	Most Effective Programs for Dealing with Crime and Delinquency
21	Programs Respondents Would Implement to Meet the Needs of their Communities
22	Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from Law Enforcement Agencies
23	Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from the Judicial System
24	Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from Community-Based Sanction Agencies
25	Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from Secure Correctional Facilities
26	Availability of Justice Information Systems
27	Criminal History Information Needs

Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from Law Enforcement Agencies

Survey Question

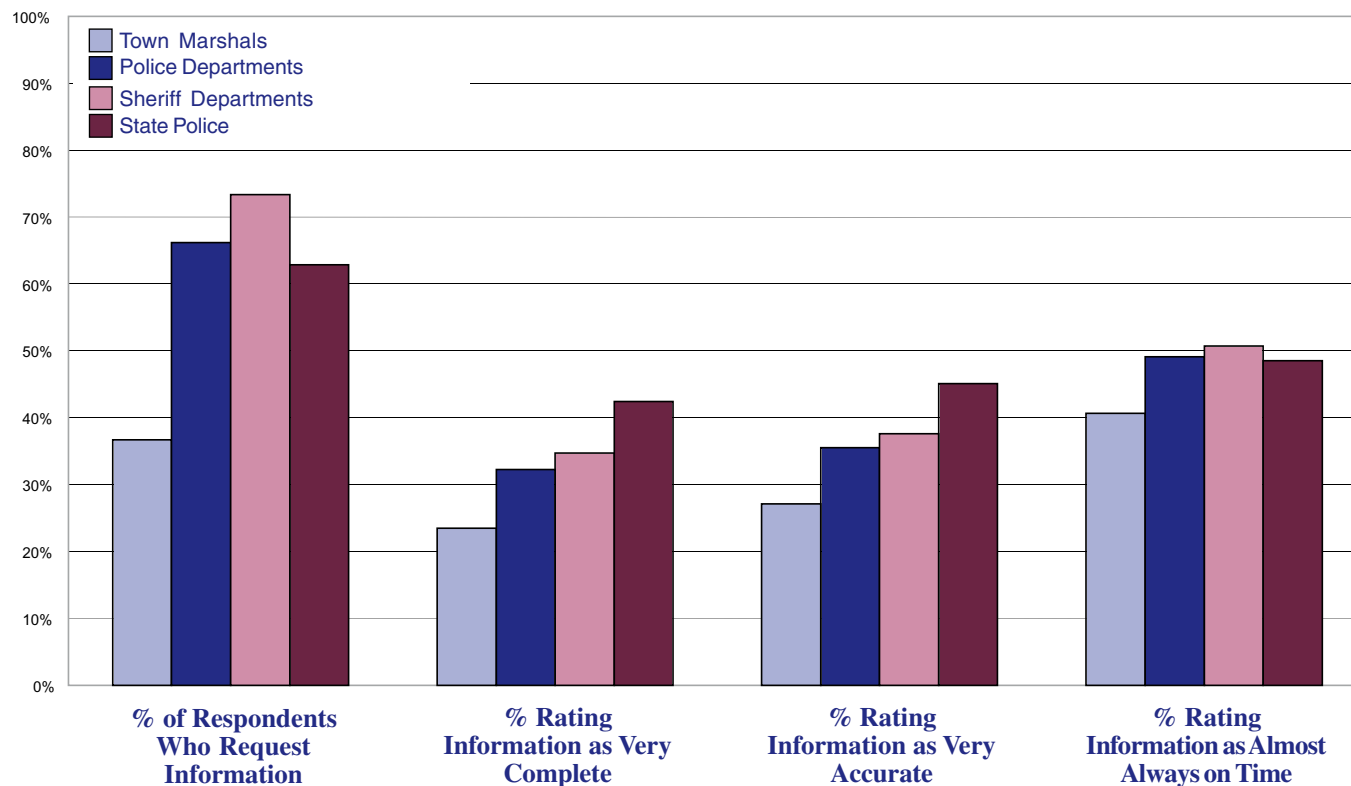
Question 29:

Many criminal/juvenile justice agencies routinely request criminal history information from other criminal/juvenile justice agencies. For each agency listed below, place checkmarks on each line to indicate the (a) completeness, (b) accuracy, and (c) timeliness of the information you receive from other agencies. If you do not routinely request criminal history information from that agency, place a checkmark in the “Do Not Request Information” box directly below the agency.

Completeness is defined as the extent to which relevant data elements are provided.

Accuracy refers to the accuracy of information that is provided on the record.

Timeliness is defined as the extent to which the record is received in time to be of use to you.

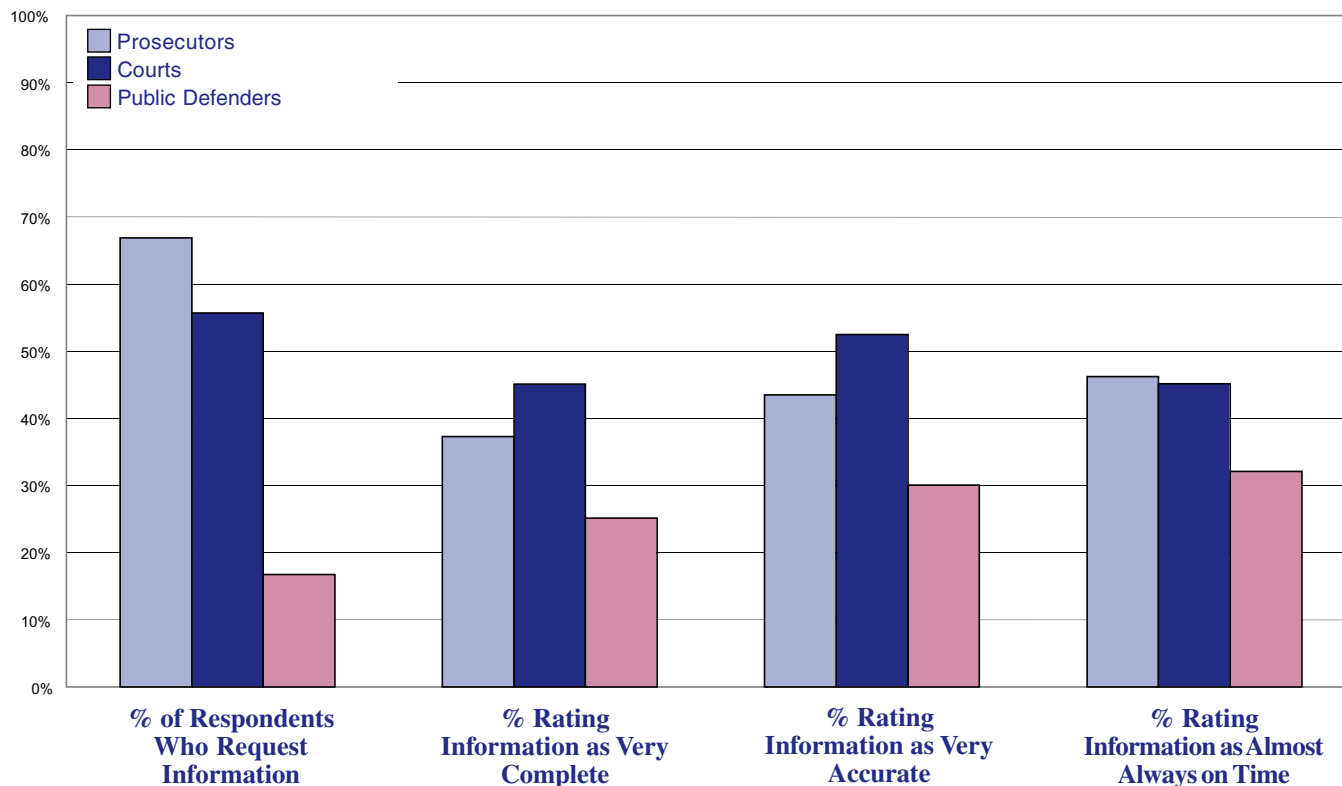


1,135 respondents indicated whether they routinely request criminal history information from a particular type of law enforcement agency. Data on completeness, accuracy, and timeliness are presented for respondents who said that they routinely request information from an agency.

Findings: More than 60% of respondents indicated that they routinely request information from police departments, sheriff departments, and the State Police. Town marshals receive considerably fewer requests. Forty percent of respondents rated information from the State Police as very complete and very accurate. Many respondents rated information from all of these law enforcement agencies as almost always on time.

Note: Completeness was rated on a four-point scale ranging from very incomplete to very complete. Accuracy was rated on a four-point scale ranging from very inaccurate to very accurate. The four-point scale for timeliness ranged from almost always too late to almost always on time.

Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from the Judicial System



1,135 respondents indicated whether they routinely request criminal history information from a particular type of agency in the judicial system. Data on completeness, accuracy, and timeliness are presented for respondents who said that they routinely request information from an agency.

Findings: One-half or more of all respondents regularly request information from prosecutors and the courts, while very few request information from public defenders. Most respondents gave courts the highest ratings for completeness and accuracy, and both courts and prosecutors received high ratings for timeliness.

Note: Completeness was rated on a four-point scale ranging from very incomplete to very complete. Accuracy was rated on a four-point scale ranging from very inaccurate to very accurate. The four-point scale for timeliness ranged from almost always too late to almost always on time.

Survey Question

Question 29:

Many criminal/juvenile justice agencies routinely request criminal history information from other criminal/juvenile justice agencies. For each agency listed below, place checkmarks on each line to indicate the (a) completeness, (b) accuracy, and (c) timeliness of the information you receive from other agencies. If you do not routinely request criminal history information from that agency, place a checkmark in the “Do Not Request Information” box directly below the agency.

Completeness is defined as the extent to which relevant data elements are provided.

Accuracy refers to the accuracy of information that is provided on the record.

Timeliness is defined as the extent to which the record is received in time to be of use to you.

Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from Community-Based Sanction Agencies

Survey Question

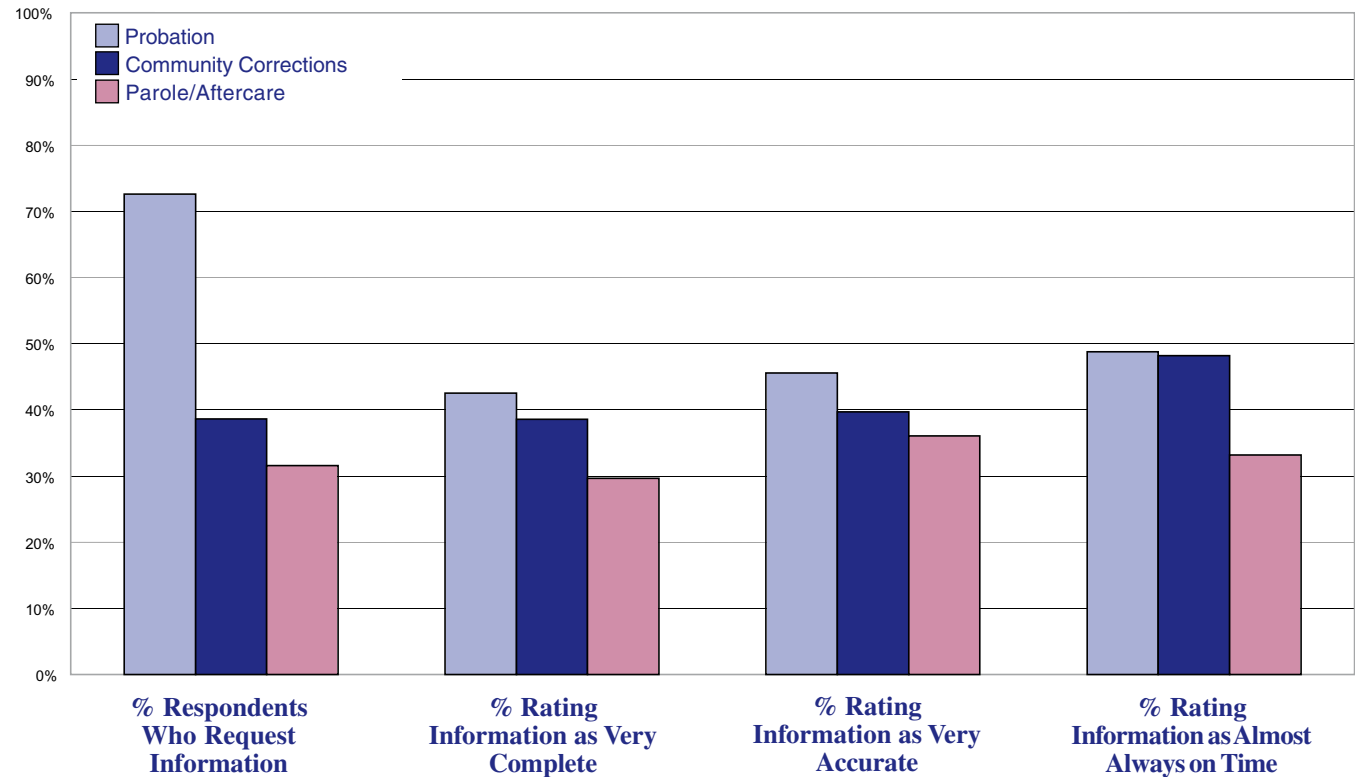
Question 29:

Many criminal/juvenile justice agencies routinely request criminal history information from other criminal/juvenile justice agencies. For each agency listed below, place checkmarks on each line to indicate the (a) completeness (b) accuracy, and (c) timeliness of the information you receive from other agencies. If you do not routinely request criminal history information from that agency, place a checkmark in the “Do Not Request Information” box directly below the agency.

Completeness is defined as the extent to which relevant data elements are provided.

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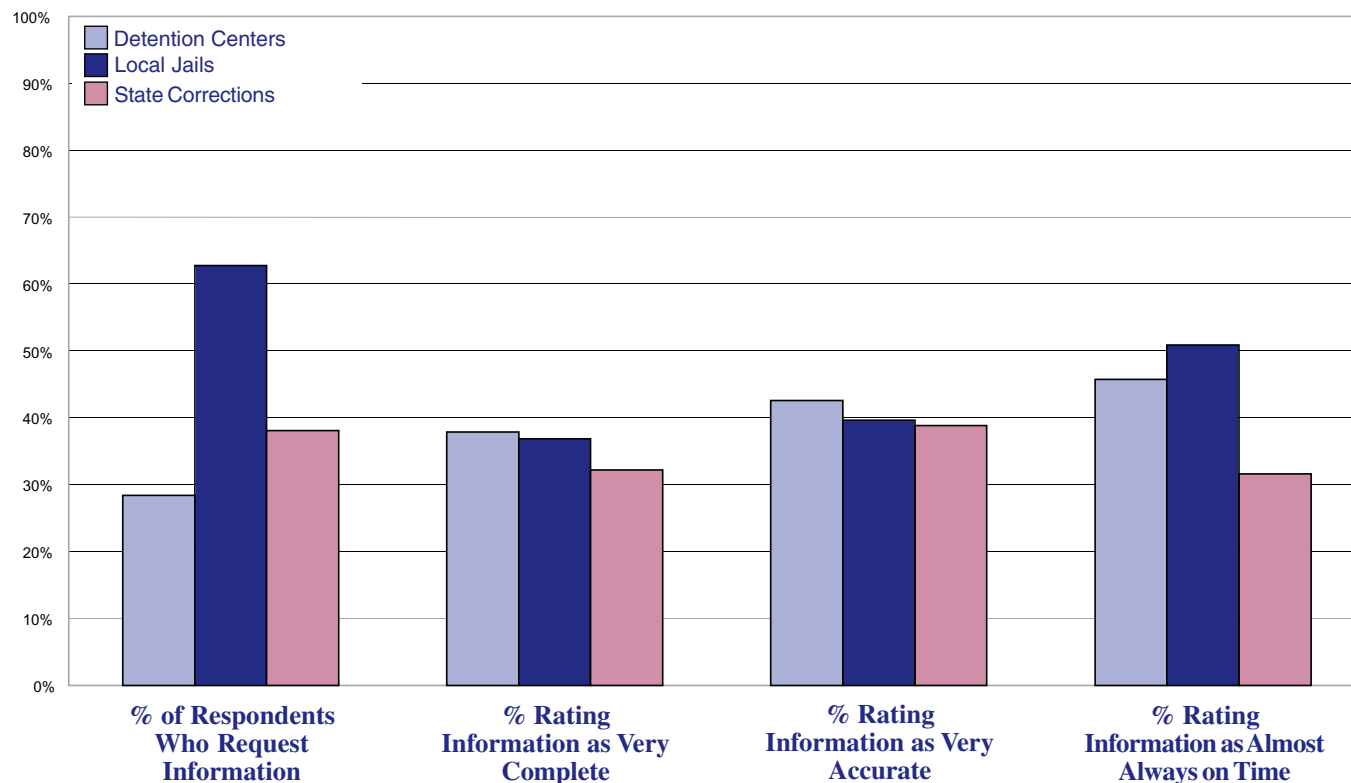


1,135 respondents indicated whether they routinely request criminal history information from a particular type of community-based sanction agency. Data on completeness, accuracy, and timeliness are presented for respondents who said that they routinely request information from an agency.

Findings: Probation departments receive considerably more requests for information than community correction or parole/aftercare agencies. Probation departments received slightly higher ratings for completeness and accuracy, and both probation departments and community correction agencies received high marks for timeliness.

Note: Completeness was rated on a four-point scale ranging from very incomplete to very complete. Accuracy was rated on a four-point scale ranging from very inaccurate to very accurate. The four-point scale for timeliness ranged from almost always too late to almost always on time.

Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from Secure Correctional Facilities



1,135 respondents indicated whether they routinely request criminal history information from a particular type of secure correctional facility. Data on completeness, accuracy, and timeliness are presented for respondents who said that they routinely request information from an agency.

Findings: Local jails receive many more requests for information than detention centers or state correction facilities. Roughly equal proportions of respondents rated information from all three types of agencies as very complete and very accurate. Detention centers and local jails received high marks for timeliness.

Note: Completeness was rated on a four-point scale ranging from very incomplete to very complete. Accuracy was rated on a four-point scale ranging from very inaccurate to very accurate. The four-point scale for timeliness ranged from almost always too late to almost always on time.

Survey Question

Question 29:

Many criminal/juvenile justice agencies routinely request criminal history information from other criminal/juvenile justice agencies. For each agency listed below, place checkmarks on each line to indicate the (a) completeness, (b) accuracy, and (c) timeliness of the information you receive from other agencies. If you do not routinely request criminal history information from that agency, place a checkmark in the “Do Not Request Information” box directly below the agency.

Completeness is defined as the extent to which relevant data elements are provided.

Accuracy refers to the accuracy of information that is provided on the record.

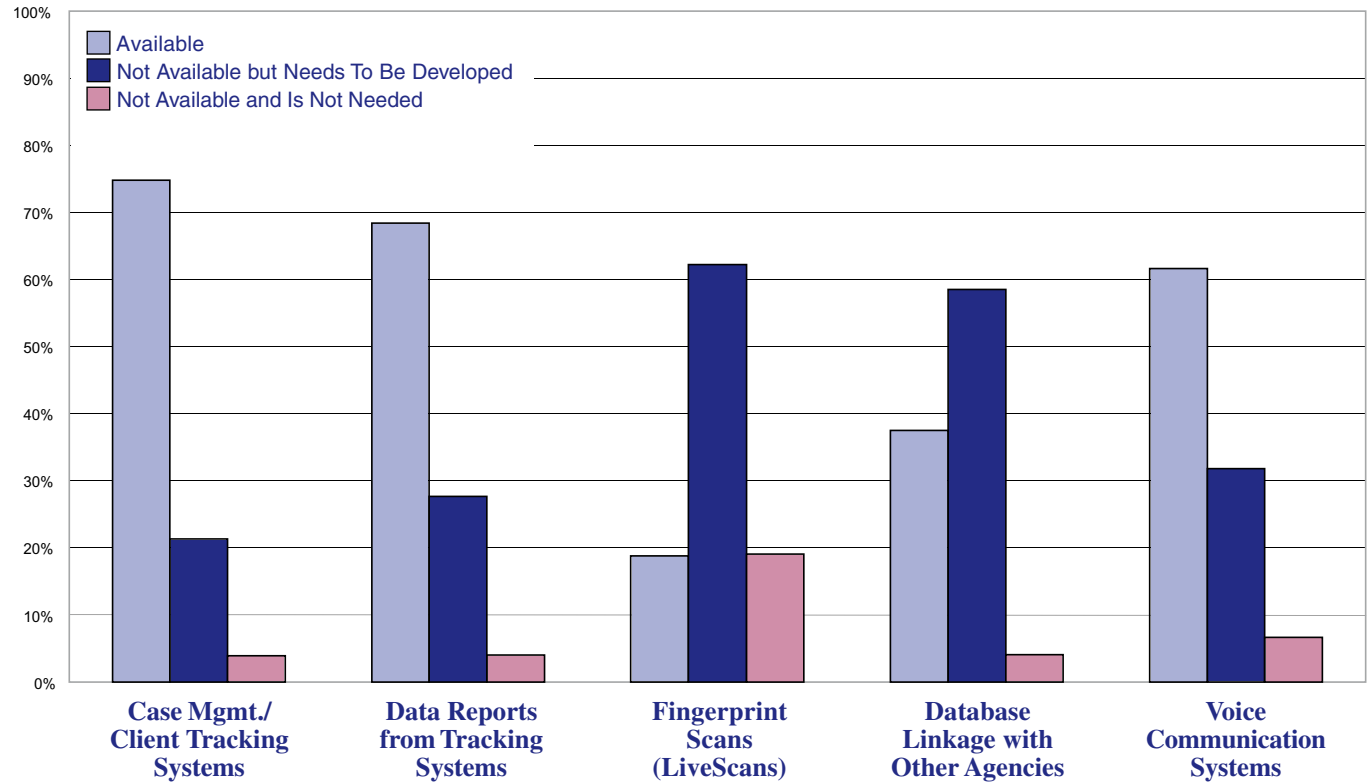
Timeliness is defined as the extent to which the record is received in time to be of use to you.

Availability of Justice Information Systems

Survey Question

Question 30:

For each of the types of information systems listed below, please indicate how sufficient it is for your day-to-day business needs by circling one number on each line.

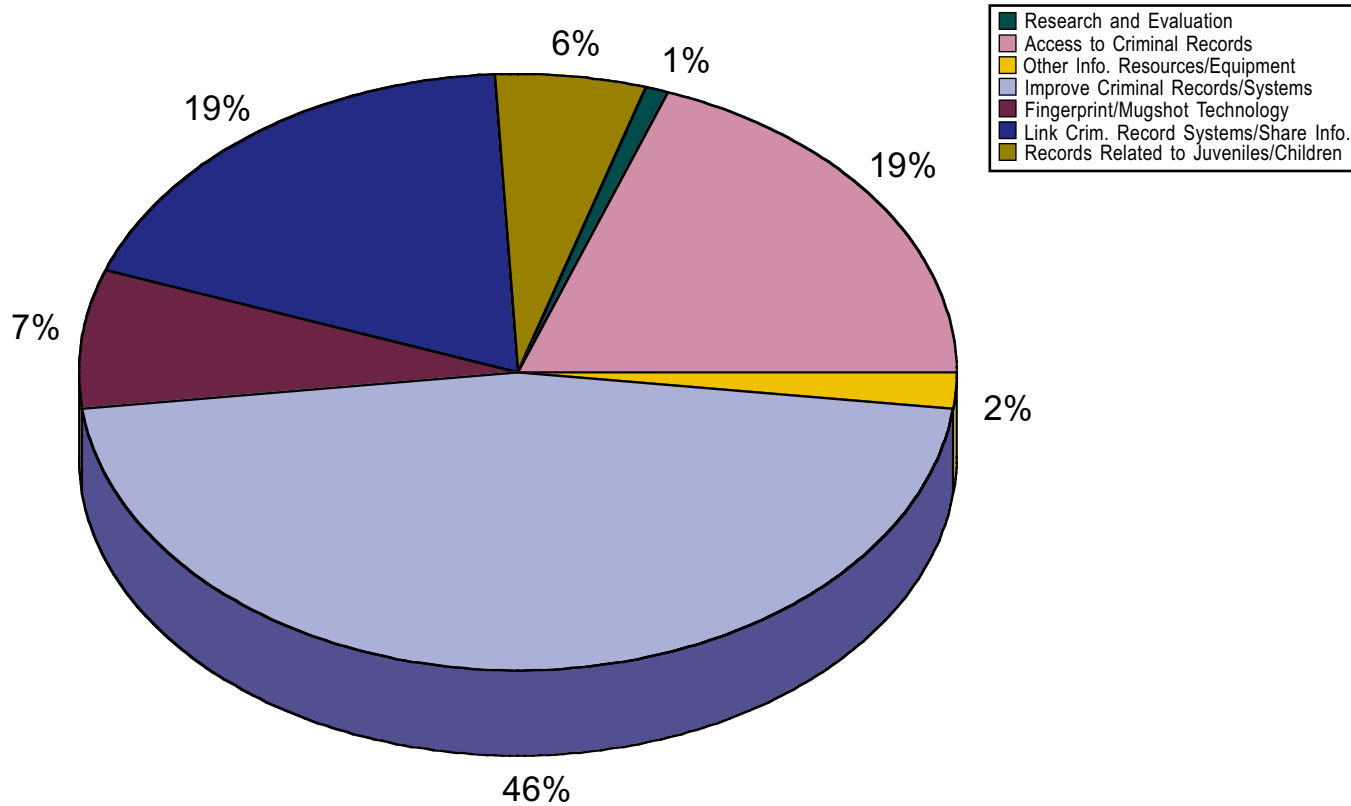


The number of respondents answering this question varied for each item, ranging from 730 for fingerprint scans to 925 for case management/client tracking systems.

Findings: More than 60% of respondents indicated that case management, data reports, and voice communication systems are available to meet their day-to-day business needs. However, less than 20% reported that LiveScan technology is available, and less than 40% indicated that they have the ability to electronically link data with other justice agencies. The majority of respondents believed that both of these information systems need to be developed. Very few thought that they are not needed.

Note: Six response options were provided: (a) information system is available and needs little or no improvement, (b) information system is available and needs moderate improvement, (c) information system is available and needs major improvement, (d) information system is not available but needs to be developed, (e) information system is not available and is not needed, and (f) don't know. Here, options a, b, and c are collapsed and compared to d and e. Don't know responses were excluded.

Criminal History Information Needs



Survey Question

Question 31:

Please describe any criminal history record information needs you/your agency might have in the future that are not currently being met. Briefly describe how the suggested information would be helpful to you/your agency.

247 respondents answered this question.

Findings: Content analysis indicated that future information needs tend to fall into one of seven categories as shown. The majority of respondents (84%) identified improving criminal records or record keeping systems, accessing criminal records, or linking criminal record systems as important needs they will have in the future.



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